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Sam H. Thompson
Iowa State College

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Direct Sources of FEEDER CATTLE and SHEEP

by Sam H. Thompson

Twenty public markets provide a lot of our feeder cattle and sheep imports into Iowa. But a lot of them come direct, too.

NEARLY two-thirds of our feeder cattle imports come into Iowa through 20 public markets. But there are still a lot of cattle that move into Iowa direct from western states — right around 366,000 head a year on the average, from 1940 to 1947. And more than half of our imports of feeder sheep and lambs come into Iowa direct from western states — an average of about 550,000 head each year during that same period.

Illustrations in my August article "Where Do We Get Our Feeder Cattle and Sheep?" (see Iowa Farm Science, vol. 4, page 22) showed how these animals moved into the state through four public markets.

Figure 1 in this article shows the number of feeder cattle and calves coming direct to Iowa from different states based on a yearly average during the 1940-47 period. Nebraska led with almost 10 percent of total imports into Iowa. Texas furnished more than 5 percent, Montana and South Dakota about 4 percent. Next highest were Wyoming, Kansas, New Mexico, North Dakota, Colorado and Oklahoma.

These same states also contributed heavily to supplies of feeder cattle and calves sold through important public markets.

Figure 2 shows the numbers of feeder sheep and lambs coming direct from different western states as a yearly average during the 8-year period. Of total Iowa imports, Montana furnished 13.5 percent; Texas 9.3 percent; and Wyoming, 7.6 percent. Next in line were South Dakota, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas.

SAM H. THOMPSON is extension and research professor in the Economics and Sociology Sections of the Experiment Station and Extension Service.

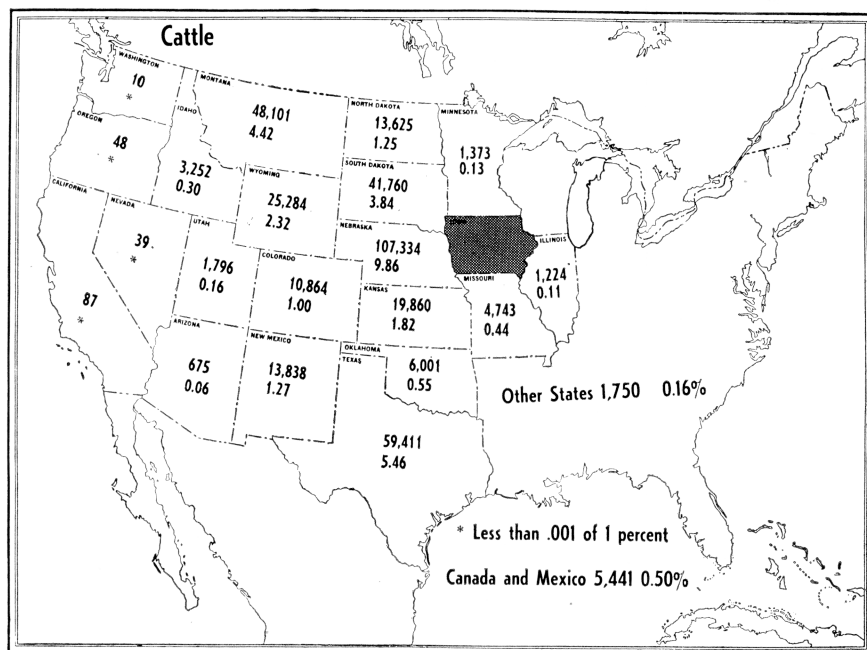


FIGURE 1

The map above shows the numbers of feeder cattle and calves coming direct from states shown. Upper figures show the numbers; lower figures, the percent of total imports into Iowa. (Based on BAE data.)

FIGURE 2

The map below shows the numbers of feeder sheep and lambs coming direct from states shown. Upper figures show the numbers; lower figures, the percent of total imports into Iowa. (Based on BAE data.)

